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PATENT

#375  
Coffman  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of ) Group Art Unit To Be Assigned  
AMY WEINER ET AL )  
Serial No. To be Assigned ) Examiner: To Be Assigned  
Filed: March 25, 1997 ) Atty. Docket No. 02441.05370

For: CONSERVED MOTIF OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS E2/NS1 REGION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of this application, please enter the following amendment.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 1, and add new claims 40-53.

40. (Newly Added) An immunogenic polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence motif,

Xaa-Thr-Xaa-Val-Thr-Gly-Gly-Xaa-Ala-Ala-Arg-Thr-Thr-Xaa-Gly-Xaa-Xaa-Ser  
Leu-Phe-Xaa-Xaa-Gly-Xaa-Ser-Gln-Xaa-Ile-Gln-Leu-Ile (SEQ ID NO:8)

wherein the amino acid sequence motif is the only sequence corresponding to a hypervariable domain of hepatitis C virus.

41. (Newly Added) A fusion protein comprising the immunogenic polypeptide of claim 40.

42. (Newly Added) The immunogenic polypeptide of claim 40 linked to a suitable carrier.